

STEEL WORKER MAY RECOVER FROM BEATING

Fred Arena, Slugged By Unknown Assaulters Tuesday, Has Fair Chance

Fred Arena, Columbia Steel worker, who was found, beaten into insensibility and in what was thought to be a dying condition near Long Beach Tuesday evening, has a good chance to recover, according to late advices from the General Hospital in Los Angeles, to which institution he was removed late Tuesday night.

Arena's assailants are so far unknown.

He is said to have left Torrance in company with two men, unknown to him, he claims, who have not been apprehended although police of Torrance and Long Beach detectives are making every effort to ascertain their identity.

His bleeding body was found at 6:30 p. m. lying beside Santa Fe avenue about a mile north of Willow street, by Henry D. Franklin of Bellflower, who told detectives that he refused to halt when a man headed to park cars on Santa Fe avenue, hailed him. When the headlights of Franklin's car showed the body of a man lying in the road, he stopped and with other motorists who arrived about the same time guarded the body until police were called and removed the victim to the Seaside hospital.

Officers in searching the vicinity found Arena's cap and the wooden parts of a gun lying in a pool of blood near the spot where the injured man was picked up.

Soon after Arena had been taken to the Long Beach hospital, Opal Wigen, one of the nurses who had attended him was cleaning up the emergency room when a man called to her through the window, asking if the victim "had faked." When she answered "No," the unseen visitor replied, "Well, if he does, you had better keep your mouth shut, too, or you'll get the same thing."

She reported the matter to the police who made arrangements to have Arena taken to the General Hospital as a matter of precaution against further attack.

Arena was found to be suffering from multiple skull fractures, which may cause his death, although hospital attendants are now of the opinion that he may recover.

Mrs. Jack Hiatt, neighbor of Arena, who lived at House No. 11, 121 Prado Court, told police of hearing loud talking and argument in Arena's rooms late Monday night, and that the next day Arena had apologized to her for the noise, saying, "There are some people in this town who would like to take me for a ride."

Several parties in Torrance have been questioned in regard to their acquaintance with Arena and their knowledge of his movements on Tuesday night, but so far no clue has been uncovered. Arena is semi-conscious at times but has made no definite statement beyond claiming that he did not know the men with whom he left this city. The injured man has been employed at the Columbia Steel plant for several months. He is said to have a wife and 14-year-old son in San Francisco.

Income Tax Man Here February 15-16

For the convenience of Torrance individuals who want help in making out their income tax reports, a representative of the internal revenue service will be at the Chamber of Commerce rooms on February 15 and 16. Income tax returns must be made by March 15, and the income tax man will be here only on the dates named, so arrangements should be made to contact him at that time.

Who Remembers When

The first wedding took place in Torrance and the names of the contracting parties? Who purchased the first home in Torrance? When Torrance won a special prize for a float entered in the Rose Parade, and what was its theme? This city had an athletic association and who were its first officers?

Answers to last week's Who Remembers When: The postoffice established September 14, 1912, with 10 boxes, was located in the Dominguez Land Company building on El Prado. S. F. Major was the first postmaster, succeeded July 18, 1913, by Henry Burmaster.

The lot called the Torrance Wastebasket lies at the junction of Cabrillo and Border avenue, now occupied by a service station, and was called the "wastebasket" because it stood four feet higher than the street, was covered with a thick growth of weeds which collected all the waste paper in town when the wind blew.

The First National Bank opened January 13, 1914, in the building on the west side of El Prado now used by CWA women workers.

The Union Tool Company purchased the first piece of property in Torrance in November, 1911. Double street, one block long, between Border and Cabrillo avenue, was named for Edward Doble, at that time head of the Union Tool Company.

Consolidated Edition of Torrance Herald & Lomita News

Torrance Herald

Only Newspaper Published In Torrance

One Section 8 Pages This Issue

TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR—No. 4

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1934

PER COPY 5c

CITY ATTORNEY RIPPY WILL ACT AS JUDGE WITHOUT PAY

Council Votes to Save \$75 Monthly Salary By Consolidating Offices; Audience Criticizes Action

Members of the Torrance city council, who for the past three weeks have been besieged by applicants and friends of those seeking appointment as city judge, settled the troublesome matter Tuesday night by asking City Attorney C. T. Rippey to continue to serve as city judge without pay, and thus save taxpayers the \$75 a month salary previously paid the city judge.

In recommending the economy move, Councilman Hitchcock stated that he personally felt that all of the ten applicants were worthy of the position, and that the council would make no mistake in appointing any one of them. He referred to a previous instance when City Clerk Bartlett offered to serve as building inspector without compensation in order to reduce municipal expenses. Then turning to Rippey, Councilman Hitchcock asked if the city attorney would not agree to continue as city judge without pay. After some hesitancy, Rippey consented, and his appointment was approved by a four-to-one vote, Councilman Klusman voting against the action.

Councilman Ludlow remarked that the duties of the city judge did not consume more than four days a month, and that no private industry would consider paying \$75 a month for four days work. He said he thought the city should economize during the depression.

Hot Protests However, the decision to consolidate the positions of city attorney and city judge brought forth many protests from the audience.

Attorney Albert Isen, whose petition contained signatures of 456 citizens endorsing his appointment, expressed vigorous opposition to the consolidation of the two positions, and stated that he would be unfaithful to the people who supported him if he did not oppose the action. "If there are to be cuts, let's have cuts all down the line. And if the council is sincere in its desire to economize, I will serve as city judge gratuitously," said Isen.

J. V. Murray stated that in his opinion the placing of two jobs under one man was out of step with the N. R. A. and President Roosevelt's program for spreading employment.

Harry McManus asked, "Doesn't it mean anything to file a petition?"

Carl Gramling stated that there was little encouragement for parents to educate children if they weren't to be given consideration from their own city, and offered the opinion that the members of the city council "didn't have the intestinal fortitude to pick a man." Councilman Ludlow countered that the city was not giving two "he-men's" jobs to one man, because of the small amount of time involved in the duties of the city judge, and said that he thought the city ought to use a little "horse sense" during these times.

Councilman Ludlow also stated that the city of Hawthorne had consolidated the two positions and no doubt a great many other municipalities were using similar tactics to reduce expenses.

Mayor Conner stated that he too was opposed to the idea of having one man hold two positions.

TURN TO STORY ONE Page 5

5,000 Birthday Balls to Honor President January 30 And to Help Finance Fight on Infantile Paralysis



GETTING READY FOR THE BIGGEST BIRTHDAY PARTY IN AMERICAN HISTORY Every community in the nation will honor President Roosevelt when he becomes 52 years old on Tuesday, Jan. 30, by giving a local ball to help endow an extension of the nation-wide work of the Warm Springs Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in which the President is so deeply interested. Upper left, the President and his mother, Mrs. James A. Roosevelt, who bought the first box sold for the New York ball in the Waldorf-Astoria, upper center, Colonel Henry L. Doherty, chairman of the committee of leaders arranging the observance of the President's anniversary; upper right, the official poster contributed to the movement by the famous artist, Howard Chandler Christy; lower picture, child patients at Warm Springs sharpening up knives and appetites for the largest observance of the President's birthday ever held at that health center. The cake, weighing 344 pounds and said to be the largest birthday cake ever made, was presented to the children for their party by Chairman Doherty.

Propose New Law to Make Bridges Safe In Floods

Formulation of a law whereby all bridges built in Los Angeles county in the future will be constructed to withstand floods was recommended to the board of supervisors this week by the flood control department. Information presented to the board by Chief Flood Control Engineer E. C. Eaton stated that the recent floods destroyed 40 bridges throughout the county valued at many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Approximately 75 per cent of the bridges in the county are obsolete from the standpoint of adequate waterways and proper location of spans. This condition, the supervisors were told, makes dams out of the bridges and they impede debris instead of allowing it to flow.

The Artesia street bridge at Long Beach was given as an example. It has earth abutments connecting the bridge and banks and with every heavy rain these are washed out.

Water Problem Delays Cut In Insurance Rate

Until the present water system is improved there will be no recommendation for lowering of fire insurance rates in Torrance, Councilman Scott Ludlow reported following a conference with the state board of fire underwriters this week. Both the source of water supply and the distributing lines will have to be improved, Ludlow stated.

Fire underwriters also pointed out that three sections of the city, i. e.: Hollywood-Riviera, McDonald Tract and Walteria, far removed from the center of town and that provisions for improving the fire equipment would have to be made before a reduction in insurance rates can be secured. Reduction of 10 to 12 per cent were possible as soon as the water situation and fire equipment difficulties were adjusted, it was reported.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR CLASSES COMMENCEMENT PROGRAMS

Mid-winter Programs Scheduled For Thursday, February 1; Dr. Featherstone of Board of Education to Award Senior Diplomas

Senior and junior high school classes will receive their diplomas of graduation at the mid-winter commencement to be held in the high school gymnasium next Thursday afternoon and evening. Suitable programs in which members of the classes will take part have been arranged.

Postal Official Here to Review Building Sites

Assures Citizens That Site Close to Business Center Will Be Selected

Local citizens can rest assured that the federal government will select a site for the Torrance post office which will be close-in to the downtown business section, said George G. Rolfe, postal inspector, yesterday before a group of property owners and civic officials.

Inspector Rolfe was in town yesterday and this morning reviewing the 26 sites which have been offered by property owners and agents. He expected to complete the inspection this noon and stated that he would send his report to Washington this afternoon. He indicated that while the government had set aside \$15,000 for the purchase of a post office site here, that there was no probability of paying the entire sum. He also stated that newspapermen, following the public meeting, that he would favor a site within a block or two of the present post office, and that the government had no intention of locating the new post office six or seven blocks from the retail business center. Property owners were permitted to reduce the prices submitted in their bids, any time prior to filing of the report today.

Fourteen People Attacked By Dog Under Treatment

Small Animal Known to Have Rabies Causes Wide-spread Damage

Fourteen Lomita persons are known to have been bitten by the small dog which ran at large for several days and finally died of rabies on January 15. All were given the Pasteur treatment at the county health center in Torrance and all precautions are being taken to guard their health.

The dog is known to have bitten at least one other dog, which has since escaped from its home premises and was still at large last Tuesday. How many other dogs were injured by the rabid puppy is not known, but all dog owners in Lomita or Torrance who notice strange actions on the part of their pets should immediately chain up the animals or shut them up for observation and call a veterinarian or a county health officer.

McMullen Sentence Postponed One Week

Frank W. McMullen, who pleaded guilty to misappropriation of funds in United States district court before Judge Harry A. Holler, will not be sentenced until next Monday. The date for sentence was originally set for last Monday but it has been put over to give the probation officer more time to investigate McMullen's record.

McMullen, former manager of the Lomita branch of the California bank, asked for acquittal when he pleaded guilty. He was held on bail of \$1000. The irregularities in McMullen's accounts amounted to \$1925.

Mrs. Godwin Hurt In Auto Accident

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Godwin and their little daughter, who were en route to Santa Barbara last Saturday, met with a serious accident near Carpinteria when the steering gear of their car locked and the car swerved off the road and on an eight-foot embankment. Mrs. Godwin, who was driving, had her collarbone broken. Mr. Godwin and the little girl were not injured. Mrs. Godwin is a teacher in the Torrance schools.

CITY TO MOVE NEON ROAD SIGN

The "Torrance" neon road sign now stationed at Harbor boulevard and East Road will be moved to the corner of Carson and Harbor boulevard, it was decided by the city council this week, as Carson street is a much more traveled highway than East Road.

CITY COUNCIL MEETS FEB. 8 In order to take the necessary preliminary legal steps for the municipal election, April 9, the Torrance city council will meet Tuesday, February 6, at 7:45 p. m.

they my dived iver up and Now swil' me.' ott's gish) ac-Rich plies eded and y to gree-your 1. ge in

35 47